

## ANSWERED.

What shall we know each other, dear?  
To-morrow—bye and bye—another year?  
To hand to hand?

When shall we know each other, love?  
In a when worthy lives shall prove—  
As that were late!

Shall I be till one must kneel,  
Shall I be till the other can not feel  
And blinding fate?

Nay then! By quivering lip and dewy eye,  
My own.

I know you now, as I am known;  
My wife, my mate.

—A. Treasie Saunders.

## SAVAGES SYSTEMS OF NUMERATION.

## An Indian Tribe Which Can't Count Two

Deceiving an Explorer.

I don't know how far the Damians themselves can count. The Chiquitos of America, a very low Indian tribe, can't count beyond one. For any larger sum of their simple language used of comparison alone—as many as one eye, as many as a crow's toes, as many as the fingers on one hand, and so forth up to six or seven. The Tasmanians could get as far as two. Beyond that they stopped short. Their simple system of enumeration was merely this: One, two, a great many. The Australian black fellows in Queensland go a step farther; they reckon thus: "One, two, two-one (3), two-two (4), and after that they say "more than four," meaning thereby an indefinite number.

One South African tribe easily beats this rudimentary record and knows how to count up to ten. But eleven, both hands and one over, it regards as the ne plus ultra of human computation. When a British detachment once marched against it, the scouts brought in word to the elders of the tribe that an immense army was coming to fight them; "an immense army," eleven white soldiers! On the other hand, some savages have really very advanced systems of enumeration; for example, the Tongans, whose native enumeration goes up as far as 100,000. Even this degree of proficiency, however, did not quite satisfy the devouring mathematical passion of Lalliaridieri, who asked them what they had ten times that number, and soon, until he had finally made them give him names for all the subsequent decimal stages, up even to one thousand billion.

The polite Tongans, anxious to oblige a benevolent and scientific gentleman in so unimportant a matter, proceeded at once to supply him with words, which the unsuspicious explorer immediately wrote down, and duly printed as mathematical terms in the accounts of his travels. But, alas for the duplicity and the unscrupulousness of savages! The supposed materials in their higher ranges were really the rudest and naughtiest words in the Tongan language, with which, as missionaries subsequently discovered, the evil-disposed Polynesians had successfully imposed on the bland and childlike innocence of a scientific stranger. Such are the dangers of leading questions addressed in an imperfectly understood tongue to the wicked minds of the children of nature. The children of nature promptly respond in the precise spirit of an east-end Arab. —Cornhill Magazine.

## Practical Jokes to the Thracians.

The ancient jokes to indulge in practical jokes to a considerable extent; for instance, the Thracians, after their drinking parties, sometimes played a game of hanging. They fixed a round nose to the bough of a tree and suspended underneath it a stone of such shape that it would easily turn round when any one stood on it. Then they drew lots, and he who drew the lot took a sickle in his hand, stood on a stone, and put his neck into the halter. The stone was kicked away, and if he could cut himself down with the sickle, well and good, but if he was not quick enough, he was hanged outright.

## The Doctrine of Practical Life.

It is as much success to kill a rabbit as it is to kill a deer. Let the young man remember that. For that is just what young men forget. The doctrine of practical life, of business, of bread-winning—not of book-writing—is, do the next thing! Indeed, that is what we are all doing. We are all pegs in the wrong holes, and restless. Shall we jump across God's infinite key-board at one bound; or shall we hop off one leg into the next vacant hole, and into the next, and thus toward our ambition. Let us hop, says practical genius.—E. Hough.

## House Where Robert Burns Died.

The house in Dumfries in which Robert Burns died has been recently repaired in consequence of its dilapidated condition. For some time or other the woodwork of the bedroom in which the poet breathed his last was removed. This has been secured by Mr. Eliot Stock, who proposes to bind in it the fac-similes of the first edition of "Burns' Poems" which he is about to publish, and of the surplus to make cabinets in which to issue the large-paper copies of the reprint. —Tribune.

## Not Worried About the Dog.

A little girl of 3 is the delight of a Washington boulevard family for a reason as simple as the bright and old thing she says. The other day a company of militia passed down the street in front of her home, and her minute black-and-tan barked furiously through the window pane at them. The little girl arose in alarm and said: "Shut the door, mamma! Fido will bite the army!" —Chicago News.

## The "Sink" of the San Lorenzo.

A veritable "sink," akin to that of the Humboldt river, in Nevada, is in process of formation at the mouth of the San Lorenzo in California. Where formerly a large stream cut its way through shifting sands to the ocean, but a small stream, easily stepped over, can be seen. —Chicago Times.

## Museum of American Curiosities.

Judith's museum of American curiosities is one of the wonders of Paris. It comprises a "gold bug," two young alligators, a few tortoises, and a moulting bird.

## The Heroism of Remaining Unknown.

It is an old truth that sudden wealth means sudden vulgarity, and there is a great deal of sudden wealth in New York. When a fresh merchant prince can't get in his winter coat on Fifth avenue without hiring a brass band and gathering a crowd; when the most conservative belles support the society bulletins, and the mere going to church Sunday is converted into a torch light procession and parade on the avenue, relays of shorthand costume reporters and lightning sketch artists, you can see how even domesticity and devotion are matters of public opinion. If I were a rector in some quiet church cor-

ner, and nothing can be more jolly, I would preach a series of sermons on the heroism of never being heard of.

There was a man pointed out on Wall street the other day as great but unsuccessful to a group of brokers, and somebody instantly echoed the feeling of the company by saying: "Why, he must be modest." He was. Our phrases, it is true, do not make long prayers on the street corners, but they hire a hall and send out complimentary all the same. —Nim Crinkle's New York Letter.

## Posthumous Poem by Victor Hugo.

Under the title "La Fin de Satan" a posthumous poem by Victor Hugo recently appeared in Paris. The work is described as partly philosophical and partly religious. The theme is the entry of Christ into Jerusalem, the scene in the postscript and the release of Barabbas. Barabbas wanders about Jerusalem at nightfall finds himself in Gethsemane before the cross, when, overcome by a feeling of awe at the magnitude of the sacrifice, he colloquizes in a passage described as of surpassing power and beauty. —Chicago Journal.

## THE ERUPTION OF ETNA.

Extract from a Private Letter Written by a Bold Night-Doer.

You have probably heard of the eruption of Etna which is going on. I left Palermo Saturday, and came here twice. We left here about 8 o'clock (six of us, English) Saturday afternoon, and drove to Nicolosi, which we reached about 5 o'clock, and got horses and went up to the scene. There were crowds of people going there, but we took a different road and went up much higher than the general crowd. We had a guide with us, and after about three hours' climbing we got to within a couple of miles of the crater itself. It is at the side of Etna, you know, not near the top, that this eruption has broken out, and we got on to a bit of high ground overlooking the whole scene. It was still daylight when we got up there, so that we saw the whole thing by daylight. We then settled ourselves down to dinner, which we had brought with us from Catania, and of course it was soon dark, and here we were comfortably 'feeding' before the most glorious and indescribable sight I ever saw in my life.

It is perfectly impossible to describe it, as no one can have any conception of what it is like until they saw it, and also until they see it from where we did, which was on high ground overlooking nearly the whole of it. At the top of this enormous crater throwing out flames and throwing up stones hundreds of yards, with a continual roar and a number of battles going on, and just below is another mouth from which the lava comes, traveling at a tremendous pace. It divides into several streams and follows the valleys. Now imagine from where we were that night, with our backs to Catania, what we saw. On the right this enormous flame going hundreds of feet into the air, making a very bright red, and all down past us from our right and extending down miles to the left streams of red-hot lava moving downward in a mass for miles, and looking like an enormous sea of red-hot coals. The width across the lava where we were, perhaps, three or four miles, and it started about two miles above us and flowed some four miles or so below us, so you must imagine a sea of angry, red-hot lava five or six miles long and three or four wide and about thirty or forty feet deep, but all of it bright red. You can judge whether it was a sight worth seeing. I would not have missed it for worlds.

The lava is not liquid, as many people suppose, but consists of many millions of large and small blocks of rocky-looking stuff rolling onward. We saw one huge rock of old lava standing in the middle of the stream of lava, which was divided by it and ran around it; the rock was about the size of, say, Quaidham church, and this rock suddenly split into two parts, the smaller half crumbled up, and the other half was carried bodily down with the stream slowly and steadily. We watched it until we left, and it moved about three-quarters of a mile in about three quarters of an hour. We waited there until nearly midnight, as we could not venture down until the moon got up, and then we reluctantly left this magnificent sight, which, as I tell you, no description can give you any idea of. As we went up we had all gone into a little house to see it, and walked round it, and thought it was unpleasantly close to the lava. Well, as we came down this house was in flames and caught by the stream. In many places we had to take different paths, so quickly did the lava spread as it came down, and from below it is awful (quite close to it) to see this mass thirty or forty feet high coming slowly toward you.

I brought a piece of red-hot lava down with me, which the guide got hold of for me, as I could not get myself; it was so hot that I could not get close enough. We put wire round it and I carried it down on the end of my stick. In fact, we each brought a bit down, and also some ashes or cinders which rained down on us whenever the wind was our way. We got back to Catania at about 4:15 a. m. We were up near the crater nearly four hours. We saw other people go up to see the lower end of the lava, stay there a few minutes and go down again; but the way to do it is to go right high up, arriving by daylight, and then stay there to see it by night and watch the changes going on. It was glorious. —Catania Cor. London Times.

## Chill Is Making Steady Progress.

The address of President Santa Maria to the Chilean congress shows that the country is making steady progress. Thirty-five bridges, three railway lines, and sixteen telegraph lines have been constructed within the past five years. The income from the postoffice has been increased 84 per cent., and its expenditure 598 private schools, with 97,136 scholars, and these schools do not include those private institutions designed for the study of special branches. The army is on a good footing, having 50,000 men, volunteers and regulars, fully equipped with the newest styles of arms. The navy is on an equally good footing. The public debt has been reduced more than \$12,000,000, and the issue of paper money has been reduced \$1,600,000. —Frank Leslie's.

## Making Wine From Florida Oranges.

The manufacture of wine from oranges is developing into a very extensive industry in Florida. Wine made from this fruit is said to have formed a large proportion of the "sherry" of commerce since the troubles caused by the phylloxera in France and other foreign wine producing countries. —Chicago Journal.

## Purity is the feminine, truth the masculine of honor. —Hare.

## A BATTLE-SCARRED RAT-CATCHER

Talks About the Habits and Peculiarities of the Pestiferous Rodents.

"Where do the rats come from," said the rat-catcher. "Originally from the sewer, and when the cellar floor is not made of cement or stone they are sure to get into the house. When the track is once opened they keep it well beaten. They go from the cellar all over the house. The lead pipes in the wall are excellent ladders for them to climb. They are excellent climbers. When a house is to be cleaned the pipes are greased, if they can be got at, so as to keep the rats in one part of the house. If this can not be done, then wire nets, with sharp-pointed sides, are hung directly near the holes. These tickle their whiskers, and when they raise the net and pass under it they can not get back to the hole. In this way they are all corralled in one place. It takes time, as they are cute, and some of the old fellows can not be led into any sort of traps. If there is anything in their way they go a mile out of their course to get around it. When they get in places where I can not reach them with the tongs I generally shoot them with a small pistol. Some of the old fellows have a fancy of settling in the ceiling and are the hardest to get at. The best thing I know of with which to treat these obstinate citizens is a good dose of burning cayenne pepper. This scares them, if they get a large whiff at the start, and then the house suddenly becomes filled with severe gas, which disappears as soon as the carcasses dry up and blow away. Rats breed rapidly, and if all of them are not destroyed they will quickly overrun a house again.

Ever been bitten? A hundred times and more. The bite does not usually amount to anything. Rats have two motions of the jaw in biting. The first is soft and delicate, and the teeth just scratch the object they have hold of. Then follows a quick, sharp powerful action of the jaw, and the slender teeth sink up to the gums and stay there. This bite is dangerous; the first nip amounts to nothing. If the teeth have gone deeply into my hand I always suck the wound. This seems to keep the swelling down, but always a good deal of pain follows. My arm has swollen sometimes when a hungry fellow has given me a nip to twice its natural size. It's strange, but there is no harm in the bite of a well-fed rat. A frightened rat will fight, if cornered, and viciously, too. The way to grab rats so that they can not bite is to seize them with a strong grip just back of the neck. They will howl like stuck pigs, but can not get away and are entirely under control.

"I used to have ferrets to clean out houses, but gave them up long ago. They are too expensive and are difficult to handle, and if I savage will bite worse than a rat. An extra number have to be kept on hand in training all the time, for when turned loose in the house where the rats are large one or more will be killed. They are just like rats in their habits and about the same size, and with a good-sized rat it is only a question of which gets the best hold first. Neither will let go. I have had ferrets' teeth fastened in my fingers, and their jaws were set so firmly that they had to be pried open with an iron bar.

"What is done with the rats? They are either drowned or sold to dog-fanciers, to train dogs to catch them, or for use in some of the sporting-houses at rat bait. Some of the choicer ones may get into the mysterious dishes served up in Mott street, in the Chinese colony. The business, however, is growing less every year. Every house has its own trap, and on every shelf is a piece of 'some well-remembered rat poison. This is undermining the business, and where formerly I could get \$300 for keeping a house clear of these mischievous visitors, I am glad now to do the same work for \$10 or \$20. There are only three or four professionals in the city. One of them still uses the ferrets, but he was telling me the other day that he had so little use for them that they die on his hands." —New York Tribune.

## The Five Kinds of Canal-Boats.

"There's five kinds of canal-boats," said an old boatman. "First there comes the 'bulldozers.' They are those big canal-boats with a cabin over the whole deck. They won't carry any more dead weight than the others, but they are more roomy for light, bulky freight because there is more room between the keel and deck. Then comes the 'lakers.' This is a 'laker,' lake boat, some call them. They are the big boats, with a cabin aft and stable and bunkers forward. Scows are boats with the whole deck open, and covered with leanto hatches like hot-houses, only there ain't no glass. They have a cabin aft and forward, too. They are the most profitable, because they load anything from coal to dry goods and fruit. The whole deck being open they load easy-like. Then there are the 'non-squeezers' them canal-boats cut in two in the middle so as to make 'two sections, so as to go easily into small locks on some canals. They are very few of them nowadays. The lumber boats are shallow and carry their loads mostly above deck. Some captains own only one boat, some two, some three. Two boats is the best. We then have the 'lakers.' When a man has three boats he ties them all together. It takes two men to pull one boat and three to pull two. They put six and eight on three boats." —Brooklyn Eagle.

## Treasure-Troves of Great Value.

Treasure-troves of great artistic value continue to be made in all parts of Europe. There is now on view in London a service of banqueting plate of a most interesting character, consisting of twenty-three circular bowls of hammered work, weighing 324 ounces, and bearing the Latin date marks 1587 to 1602. This plate originally belonged to Sir Christopher Harris of Radford, Devon, and after the assault on Radford by the Puritans in 1645 it disappeared until 1827, when it was turned up by a plow in a field near Radford. The plate is in fine preservation and will be offered for sale during the coming season. —San Francisco Chronicle.

## The site of the ancient Egyptian city of Zoan, often spoken of in the Bible, and which Ezekiel prophesied would be destroyed by fire, has been found and is now undergoing a thorough examination. Many interesting discoveries have been made which will still further elucidate that Egyptian life and history, which already we have so full an account. A curious find is that of the house of an amateur artist of the ancient world, whose studio has been examined and it is found that he was as choice of his implements as modern dabblers in the fine arts always are. He had a very fine palette of limestone ground perfectly smooth with twelve little depressions to

hold his colors. These he used only in a liquid state. His palette knife was made of silver, highly decorated by engraving, and the little jars to hold his paints were of the finest glazed ware.

Specimens of his own work were found, but they were very poor, while his collection of bric-a-brac, including bronze figures, glazed pottery of various makes, and delicate glass objects of different sorts, was very fine. He owned a plano-convex lens, and he had almost the only specimen of ancient painted glass yet discovered. In fact, an artist's studio of olden times seems to have been re-created in the studio of the present day in this at least, that the more show was made the less work was done. —Philadelphia Times.

## Dyspeptic Dealers in the Suburbs.

A very sensible physician who lives in a fashionable suburb, tells me that there is not a man residing in the village and doing business in Chicago who is not a dyspeptic. The cause of this, he says, is well known among physicians practicing in the suburban towns of large cities. It is the effect of having to catch a train. The stomach is as easily prevented from secreting the gastric juice as a cow is from giving down her milk. The cow must be calm and happy or the milk will not come; and the man must be quiet, leisurely and free from anxiety when he eats or the descent of food into his stomach will produce a very imperfect flow of gastric juice, and a tendency to fermentation and irritation instead of digestion.

Now, these fellows that live in the suburbs, so my medical friend says, always eat breakfast with the time-table in their minds and their eyes on the clock. Moreover, if they happen to be late for a few minutes late, and they make up for this by taking a good run to catch the train. This violent exercise aggravates the harm already done, and before the man is aware of it he has become a chronic dyspeptic. —Cor. Chicago Journal.

## ONE WHO KNOWS NOSES

Writes Pointedly about the Different Kinds of Facial Protuberances.

A man's nose or a woman's nose is something of which the owner is sensitive. The nose is geographically situated in the middle of the face, between and below the eyes, and its base is a level with the bottom of the ears. It is a very handy part of the physical make-up, and it is indispensable. Considerable attention is paid to this all-important member, too, and it is very particular and hard to please. Thousands of men are annoyed by their noses, and for other countries in making delicate perfumes just to please this particular member of the body.

No two noses are alike. There is always some distinguishing mark or outline, yet the noses of the world are classified into four general divisions, the Roman, Grecian, equine, and pug. An inch on the nose is a good deal, and has considerable to do with the owner's dignity of expression, and has something to say about the qualities of mind to be found in the owner. Whatever shaped nose is planted on our face, we have to wear it. It is decidedly not like a hat, which, if it does not suit us, can be thrown aside. The nose is mighty small, and it is mighty hard to get any good to attempt to cut off his nose to spite his face.

There is a certain individuality about the nose which makes itself felt. The Grecian nose is the ideal nose, clear cut with delicately and perfectly chiseled nostrils, which indicate refinement and intellect. We find this nose on Venus, Apollo, Mercury, and other Greek idealizations. Alexander the Great was a Greek, and wore a Grecian nose with Roman modifications. If you are a student of history, you will remember that Alexander was an aggressive man; he had the independence to introduce innovations, to depart from precedent, and to establish a policy of Greece and wage aggressive wars in foreign countries to extend the domination of his country. His nasal modification was the work of aggression in the upper part.

The Roman nose comes next; it is not so well chiseled and finished at the end, and indicates that the owner loved knowledge and intellect. We find this nose for the valuable assistance it gave in securing power. Aggression and self-defense are well marked, and are really the characteristics of the Roman nose. Julius Caesar had such a nose, and he used it as a moral battering-ram—"but Caesar was ambitious."

I admire a large nose, and a large Roman nose indicates power and enterprise. Look at the men who wore such a nose. There were Washington, Napoleon and Lincoln, all wearing such an aggressive nose. The battle of Waterloo was a battle of noses. Napoleon's Roman nose versus Wellington's nose, which indicated intellectual combination and power. Napoleon's big nose was able to stand the shocks of that famous battle, but Wellington's syncretical nose snuffed the victory from afar, and kept the Iron Duke holding out until Blucher came and saved the day. So you see what an important part the nasal appendage plays.

You will rarely find intellectual strength in the head whose frontoprice is a low-bridged nose. The severity of the African is read in his low-bridged nose with turned up end. Weakness of intellect lies there, as in a child, with its soft, cunning little nose. The projection of the end of the nose indicates the interrogating mind and conversation. You will find it in the inquisitive child generally.

The aquiline nose you will find in the Hebrews, and it has signs of defense, protection and aggression. The breadth indicates the love of money-getting. It is a form of nose which was found in the ancient Assyrians. I could go on and name great men whose characteristics are well known, and you would find that the nose was the tale-bearer of the workings of the mind—"Venerable Sage" in Toledo Blade.

## Traveling and Sleeping-Cars.

A physician, referring to the custom of traveling on sleeping-cars with the berths made up with their heads toward the engine, said: "It is certainly bad for the brain of the sleeper as it is not natural, and it is no wonder that so many travelers, especially those who have been on the road exclusively, experience bad effects from it. The infants in traveling-cars and to some women will think of trundling along so the child goes head first. They always—except the young and inexperienced mother—push them feet first. Physicians invariably advise such locomotion. It is the same thing on the cars, and no one should hesitate about having his berth made up so as to move along feet first. It is much better for the brain." —St. Paul Globe.

## LETTING A "GO-DEVIL" DROP.

Exploding a Charge at the Bottom of an Oil-Well; Astonishing Results.

The well we saw shot was charged with 300 pounds of nitro-glycerine. When all the tubes were down the premises were cleared. The expert picked up his apparatus, loaded them in his wagon, and drove away. All the spectators who had ventured close about to see the process withdrew to the highway and got into eligible sighting positions 300 yards off and to the windward of the well, the men in charge assuring them the thing to get out of the way of the oil in the well, which, being thrown to a great height, would be carried in spray a long distance by the wind.

Then a workman brought out the "go-devil" and called for a volunteer from the spots and to come and drop it. The "go-devil" is the weight that, dropped in the well, explodes the charge. It is a rude casting about a foot long and weighing about twelve pounds. It is a four-winged messenger, the center being about an inch in diameter, from which four wings about an inch and a half broad and a quarter of an inch thick project, the whole being brought to a point at the downward extremity. The wings carry it straight to the mark, and the point strikes the plate of the uppermost tube down in the well. The man stood over the mouth of the well holding this destroyer when he called out: "Does anybody want to come and drop it?" The expert said there would be plenty of time to go away. The correspondent, desirous of seeing how it was all done, climbed down from his perch on the fence and started for the well. "Don't be excited," said the expert, "you'll have time enough to get back here before it strikes." The platform about the well was only and slippery, so the expert would have to be entered upon with caution in order to avoid slipping down.

The man at the well handed the correspondent the "go-devil." "Lower it well down in the iron casing," he said, "before you drop it, so there will be no mistake about it. There will be plenty of time to get away." The correspondent clutched the casting with his fingers between the four wings and did as he was told to do. Then he looked around to get the bearings for his feet. "All ready," said the man at the well. "Don't stumble over that timber when you start." Drop went the go-devil, and away went the correspondent. He leaped over the timber, skipped the gutter near the well, and made for the highway with the go-devil ringing in his ears as it sped down through the iron casing on its errand of destruction. The man who remained last at the hole walked deliberately off in another direction. The correspondent had time to recover his sight-seeing position when the sharp crack of the gun-caps 1,400 feet down in the earth was heard. There were ten seconds of silent suspense, and then a grand spectacle was seen.

First a roar was heard, and this was followed at once by the belching forth of a column of greenish liquid, which rose to the top of the derrick, broke into spray, and filled the air. Next followed a column of black smoke and liquid, rising out of the hole like the escape of steam from a locomotive's safety valve. A fire of stones followed this, cracking among the timbers of the derrick and falling about the feet of the spectators, and the stones thrown straight from the mouth of the well, fell back, harming no one.

The belching lasted perhaps half a minute, and then all was quiet. The eight quarts of nitro-glycerine had done its work. It had lifted first a column of crude oil 1,400 feet deep from the bottom of the well, had broken the black sand-rock in which the petroleum is found, and had thrown the fragments up from a depth of 1,400 feet. The grass and ground for an acre round was covered with a dirty, greenish slime, in which the spectators had to tread in order to inspect the results. Out of the well's mouth inflammable gas was pouring at a rate that would make a stockholder of the Consolidated company turn green with avarice to behold it. If a match had been applied disastrous results would have followed.

The "go-devil." Bits of it not bigger than one's thumb were picked up and brought away as mementoes.—Bradford Cor. New York Post.

## Prayer Machine in a Buddhist Convent.

Some 1,300 years ago the business manager of a wholesale prayer firm in the Buddhist convent of Ganga-Nor conceived the brilliant idea of addressing his communications to the eyes, as well as the ears, of the patron saint, and mounted a prayer-machine, which, in default of a protective patent, soon acquired a remarkable popularity. The prayers, written on minute strips of parchment, and preceded by a movable address, were pasted on a large cylinder revolving like a peanut roaster, and enabling the manipulator to offer up caligraphic appeals to any desired saint at the rate of 650 dozen a minute. The drop in wholesale quotations was unprecedented in the history of the stock market.—Dr. Felix L. Oswald.

## Law Practice North and South.

Several years ago I asked Roger A. Pryor, who had been in congress before the war, what difference he saw between the practice and knowledge of law in the north and in the south. He had moved to New York and was a competitor of northern lawyers. He replied that they read more law in the south in little country offices than the big lawyers in the large cities did, but, said he: "In this northern region they have a very extraordinary power to assemble facts and overwhelm with evidence in order to carry their cases. They do not argue upon the law points, but beat you with their witnesses and their facts." —"Gath's" Enquirer Letter.

## The Thickness of the Earth's Crust.

The thickness of the earth's crust is believed by Monsieur Faye, the French geologist, to be greater under oceans than beneath continents, because the earth's heat has always radiated more freely there. —Arkansas Traveler.

## Had Been an Anxious Hour.

He had been out for a day's fishing, and as he proudly displayed the contents of his basket to his wife, she exclaimed: "Oh, John, aren't they beautiful! But I've been so anxious for the past hour, dear!"

## "Foolish little one!" said John, carelessly.

"Why, what could have happened to me?"

"Oh, I didn't worry about you love; but it grew so late I was afraid that before you got back to town the fish-markets would all be closed." —Harper's Bazar.

## The power to earn is a boon.

The will to save is a virtue. —Signor Max.

## Separating Aluminum from Corundum.

As an instance of the need of one portion of our country for every other portion, I may refer to corundum, which is now mined in North Carolina, near Asheville, to be sent to Lockport, N. Y., a distance, I should think, by rail, of 1,500 miles. Some young men in Cleveland have invented a process of separating aluminum from corundum, the latter containing 50 per cent. of aluminum, which, while the most generally distributed substance or element on the globe, has been hitherto inseparable in quantities from the sand or clay with which it was impurely mixed. You could throw it on top of the highest blast furnace on the globe and it would not melt at all. The new blast furnace at Lockport is to melt it by electricity. Yet even now they do not undertake to separate it, except from corundum.

Aluminum is a remarkable metal, not known till 1825; not handled till 1854; it gives tremendous tensile property to iron and copper, makes wrought iron adapt itself for castings, and a little of it has all the influence of gold in arts; by itself it looks like lead or tin, but it is hardly heavier than wood. The young men who invented this process have spent \$30,000 at it. —George Alfred Townsend.

## A Minister's Crushing Repartee.

I never heard of a finer piece of wit and repartee than was told me the other day by a minister from the south, involving two of his brother ministers, whom I will call White and Green. Rev. White had recently been honored with the title of D. D., and really deserved it, not only for his learning but for his piety, which was of a particularly marked and gentle type. Rev. Green was of a jealous disposition and something of an egotist, and on a meeting one day with Rev. White undertook to belittle his new honors by telling him that the title of D. D. was conferred so indiscriminately and so frequently nowadays that it didn't amount to a great deal, anyway. If this indecorous and unbrotherly assault offended or nettled Rev. White, it was not the least visible, and to this day no one knows whether he was even conscious of the crushing repartee which he then got off. He assented in the mildest and most dispassionate manner imaginable to what Rev. Green had said, and then added, in a sort of absent-minded way: "As you say, the title has got to be so common that a minister who hasn't got it isn't anybody at all." —Chicago Journal.

## Conscientious Pupils in the School Room.

One of the most serious trials of the teacher, after all, is the painfully good and painfully literal boy. A reading class was at work in a Boyton school long ago, and the piece selected was an "Address to the Mummy in Belzoni's Museum, London." A pupil, one of those serious, conscientious fellows, was called upon to read the notes on the piece at the bottom of the page. In these occurred the name Cheops, and the pronunciation was spelled and included in brackets. This is how he read it: "According to Herodotus, the great pyramid, so-called, was built by Cheops (pronounced Keops)." Perhaps it was another type of a child who was requested to give five important uses of rivers. This is one use he ingeniously manufactured: "When you lose a hat off in the water you can go out in a boat and get it." —Boston Budget.

## Teaching the Beaux Small Talk.

A certain young lady living in Washington earns a fine salary by teaching American small talk to those young attaches who are great beaux in society. Her plan is simple enough. Her pupil calls, is received, and converses with his hostess teacher for two hours. The talk is confined to drawing-room topics. The wicked young teacher taught six young fellows precisely the same round of pretty and witty phrases, and at a certain grand ball they were hovering around one of the youngest and most popular of the Washington girls, and each and every one was saying the same things to her. —Washington Cor. New Orleans Picayune.

## Collection of Boot and Shoe Heels.

An old bachelor in Berlin has for many years past been engaged in forming a collection of boot and shoe heels, of which he has now over 1,000, which are exposed to view in a handsome glass case, and numbered and catalogued with the dates and names of the original owners. The notion was first suggested to him on the 5th of June, 1861, when on a visit to the ancient castle of Kinast in company of a beautiful Swedish lady, who lost the heel off one of her boots. That particular boot heel became the first and most valuable item in the entire collection. —Chicago Herald.

## The Throat of the Bull Snake.

Professor Theodore Gill, of the Smithsonian Institution, says of the bull snake, which is found in many parts of the country: "This reptile has become notorious on account of the sound it emits. It is very much like the low bellow of a bull, and to this the snake owes one of its names. This is caused by the fact that the epiglottis, an organ absent in serpents, is abnormally developed in the bull snake." —Chicago Ledger.

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